

FEMALE GENITALIA OF A SPECIES OF SPIDER LIVING IN TURKEY (ARANEAE: DRASSIDAE)

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ABSTRACT

The female genitalia is given of *Gnaphosa lucifuga* that so far was not shown in detail.

INTRODUCTION

The genus of *Gnaphosa* is rather a large one, including more than fifty species which are distributed all over the world. Among the well known species of them, *G. lucifuga* is mainly a European species which is found, also, in Turkey (Pavesi, 1876; Nosek, 1905; Giltay, 1932; Bristow, 1935; Karol, 1966) and in spite of the lackness of knowledge of the countries of near east, it is, also, found in India (Dyal, 1935).

Gnaphosa lucifuga was first described by Walckenaer (1802) and, later, a key for the family of Drassidae was prepared by Simon (1914). In these old publications, well drawn figures of female genitalia were missing. With the thought of filling this need, this study has been done.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The material was collected during the summer months around Ankara at 1954-55, It was kept in % 70 alcohol. The genitalia was prepared for microscopical study with regular methods.

OBSERVATIONS

The epigyne of *G. lucifuga* is as in Figure 1. At the middle, there is an oval fossette (Fig. 1, f) which is covered by an anterior process (Fig. 1, ap) that extends almost the half of the epigyne. On the sides, the fossette is bordered by thick walls which converge toward the posterior, forming a V shape. Posterior to the process, at each side, there are heavily chitinized projections (Fig. 1, p).

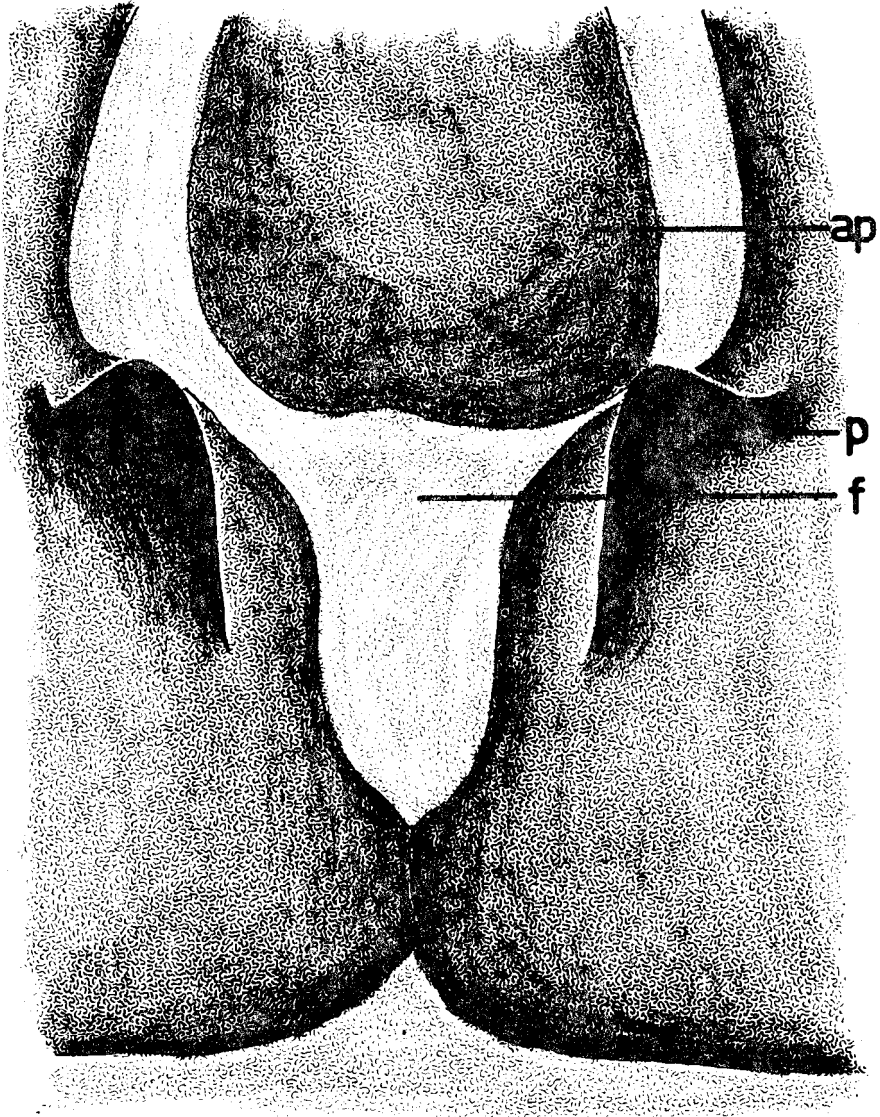


Fig 1: Epigyne of *G. lucifuga* from ventral. f. fosette; a. p. anterior process; p. heavily chitinized projection.

Vulva is as in Figure 2. There are two *receptaculum seminis* (Fig. 2, r) which are found at the second half of the epigyne, posterior to the an-

terior process (Fig. 2, a). The opening of entrance (Fig. 2, o) of the canals (Fig. 2, c) leading to the *receptaculum seminis* are situated sidewardly, just under the chitinized projections of the epigyne. After leaving the *receptecula*, canals of fecondation (Fig. 2, f) run at sides, toward the anterior of the vulva.

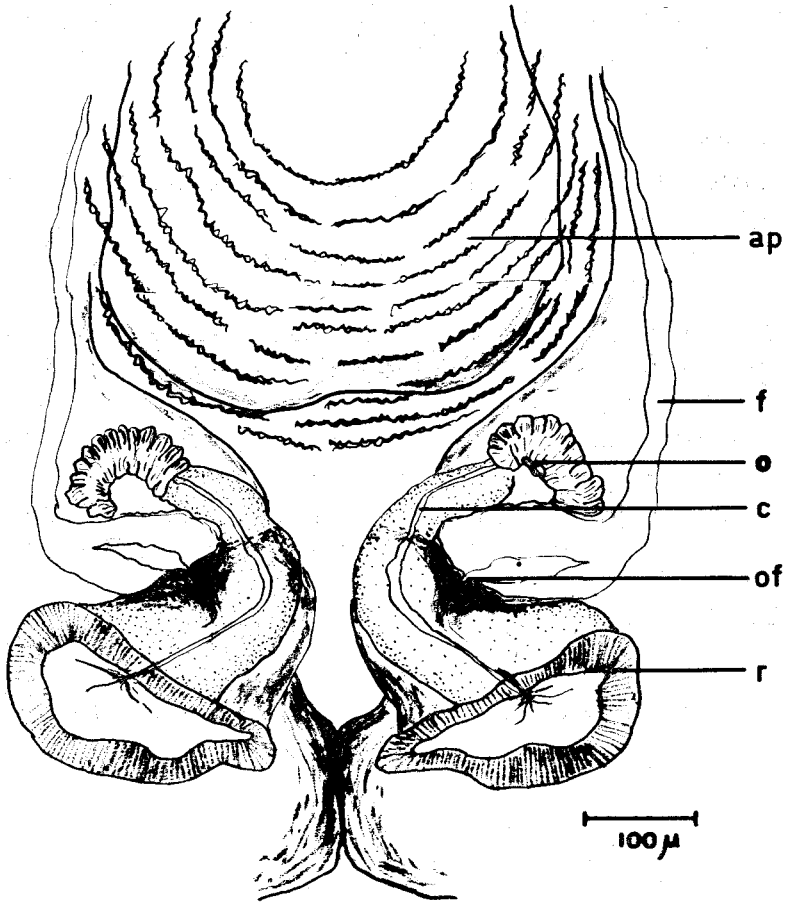


Fig 2: Vulva of *G. lucifuga* from inside. r. *receptaculum seminis*; o. opening of entrance; c. canal leading to *receptaculum seminis*; of. beginning of canal of fecondation; f. canal of fecondation; ap. anterior process seen from inside.

DISCUSSION

Determination and the drawings of the female genitalia were made from the material collected around Ankara. With these drawings, the female genitalia was shown first time in detail.

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